



ABSTRACT

A method for replacing at least a portion of an intervertebral disc in a spinal column includes removing the portion of the intervertebral disc from the spinal column and inserting an apparatus for replacing the portion of the intervertebral disc. The apparatus is operable to permit respective vertebral bones of the spinal column between which the apparatus is positioned to articulate in flexion and extension in an anterior-posterior plane of the spinal column, lateral bending in a lateral plane of the spinal column, and axial rotation through a range of angles without permitting the vertebral bones to substantially move in directions directed away from one another along a longitudinal axis of the spinal column.

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